

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the Requirement for an election of invention as between the two groups specified on page 2 of the Official Action dated October 23, 2004. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in light of these amendments to the independent claims and the following remarks.

Election of Invention

The Applicant, through its representatives and attorneys, hereby respectfully elects the invention of Group I, with traverse, having claims 1 to 12, 14 and 15. It is requested that claims 13 and 16 of Group II be held in abeyance pending later amendment to include linking claims if feasible in that the inventions were allegedly related as combination and subcombination, or a filing of a divisional application as of right. The traverse is to preserve either of these rights.

Specification

The specification has been reviewed and a few changes made to prepare this application for final printing should the elected claims be allowed as filed. None of these changes constitutes new matter.

Conclusion

An action or allowance of at least the elected claims 1 to 12, 14 and 15 is respectively requested, and a rejoinder of claims 13 and 16 is preserved and requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 4, 2004

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PATENT APPLICATION

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